

its centennial in recognition of the troop's distinguished history. The troop has played a key role in the growth and development of the state through its service projects and cultivation of a new generation of community leaders.

TRIBUTE TO DAWN ADDIS—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Every year, we dedicate the month of March to give special recognition to the accomplishments and sacrifices made by America's women. I consider it an honor to highlight the extraordinary women who are making a difference in my District. I would like to recognize one outstanding woman: Dawn Addis, of Morro Bay, California.

Dawn saw the need for women in San Luis Obispo County to rise together and vocalize their demand for equal rights, which led to her becoming the co-founder and co-organizer of the Women's March San Luis Obispo (SLO). Her hard work and dedication granted San Luis Obispo County residents the opportunity to participate in the single biggest one-day demonstration in our nation's history. Dawn offered her community a platform to join a larger movement and have their voices heard.

Because of Dawn's leadership, about 10,000 people marched in unity through the streets of downtown San Luis Obispo. She also ensured that the march remained peaceful and non-violent by working with the San Luis Obispo Police Chief. She worked from various community members to organize a successful, inclusive and safe event. The response from San Luis Obispo citizens about restoring their hope for the future was a testimony for the importance of Dawn's work.

Dawn's leadership empowered women from across San Luis Obispo County and allowed them to take part in a larger national conversation. I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 24th Congressional District, Dawn Addis, for her incredible service to her community.

MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL
OP-ED

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following op-ed I recently wrote for the Memphis Commercial Appeal:

Last year, then-candidate Donald Trump condescendingly said to African Americans, "You live in your poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs . . . What the hell do you have to lose?"

We now know the answer: a lot.

Changes at the Department of Justice (DOJ), alone, are alarming. Instead of serving its traditional role as guardian of civil rights, DOJ is in full retreat. It has reversed

course on voting rights, abandoning opposition to a Texas voter ID law in which a federal court found 600,000 registered voters did not have IDs necessary to vote.

Instead of protecting citizens from police who illegally discriminate against African Americans, Attorney General Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III has stated he does not favor the type of consent decrees used in Baltimore and Chicago to remediate conditions.

Sessions has also rolled back President Obama's efforts to phase out private prisons. African Americans not only make up a disproportionate share of the U.S. prison population, but appear more likely to be sent to private prisons, where the DOJ Inspector General has warned there are more security incidents than in public prisons.

Sessions has threatened to thwart the will of voters in states that have legalized marijuana. African Americans are three times more likely than whites are to be arrested for marijuana, despite usage being virtually the same.

The new Education Secretary thinks HBCUs, "are the real pioneers when it comes to school choice." This is ignorant of segregation that necessitated the creation of HBCUs. Betsy DeVos has an education record that does not bode well for public schools, which have provided a path for African Americans to achieve the American Dream.

The new HUD Secretary, Dr. Ben Carson, said within days of assuming office that slaves were "immigrants," a comment that bewildered many, including the NAACP. The President's recently-released budget proposal cuts \$6 billion from this agency that so many rely on.

The outlook for a minimum wage increase under this Administration is nil. The President's first pick to head the Department of Labor opposed a raise, despite there not having been one since 2009. According to the Economic Policy Institute, 35 percent of African-American workers would benefit from a minimum wage increase.

Critical programs that help the most vulnerable such as Meals on Wheels, heating and energy assistance, and nutrition aid to women and children (WIC) would be drastically cut or eliminated in the President's budget. In addition, the budget eliminates Community Development Block Grants and HOME programs that provide affordable housing for low-income residents. Legal Services Corporation, which helps those who cannot afford legal representation, and the Minority Business Development Agency, which helps promote minority-owned businesses, would be eliminated. Massive cuts to these vital programs would be devastating to Memphis.

While these cuts would have a disproportional impact on African Americans, most cuts will affect all those who are economically disadvantaged and in need of government assistance.

Republicans are also rushing a health care plan that takes from low and middle-income families and gives to the rich. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, 24 million more Americans would be uninsured by 2026 under this plan. Insurance costs for citizens over 50 years of age would increase dramatically, and financial assistance would be drastically cut for those in need. All while millionaires and billionaires receive massive tax breaks.

During Black History Month, Trump showed his ignorance of the African American experience when he suggested Frederick Douglass was alive. His cabinet is on pace to have the fewest African Americans of any administration in recent memory.

While some African Americans have enjoyed prosperity and acceptance, it is unde-

niable that African Americans still suffer from vestiges of slavery and Jim Crow. Discrimination and institutional racism have held so many back and left many in need of government relief. Over the last half century, much of America's progress has been measured by how it has dealt with its original sin of slavery. Civil rights, voting rights, advances in health care, public education, social justice and ladders of opportunity to enter the middle class have been markers by which we have judged presidential administrations. Sadly, this administration is failing on all counts.

CONGRATULATING JERRY ANDERSON FOR HIS INTRODUCTION INTO THE OHIO ASSOCIATED PRESS HALL OF FAME

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize WTOL's Emmy Award-winning anchor, Jerry Anderson, for his election to the Ohio Associated Press Hall of Fame. For more than 40 years, Jerry has served Northwest Ohio as a valued and trustworthy face on the local news, and this honor is well deserved.

In 1974, Jerry Anderson started his career in Bowling Green on the radio airwaves for WFOB. Jerry began his television news career in 1980, and he has become one of the top media members in the region. Jerry was awarded an Emmy for Outstanding News Anchor in the NATAS region in 2001.

With a career that has touched on local, regional, and national news, Jerry covered countless important events to the people of Toledo and surrounding areas. So far in his career, Jerry has brought four national political conventions, the inaugurations of three presidents, and Pope John Paul II's visit to Detroit into the living room of families in Northwest Ohio.

A proud Ohioan, Jerry should also be celebrated for support of local charitable efforts, including earning his certification as an auctioneer so he may volunteer for more than 20 charity auctions annually. Jerry also donates numerous hours as an emcee at community events to help raise funding for local schools, disadvantaged families, and individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, the Ohio Associated Press Hall of Fame recognizes broadcasters that have "served with exceptional distinction and honor in the field of journalism." When you think of the upstanding work he has done for over four decades, it's clear those words describe Jerry Anderson. Once again, congratulations to Jerry on this high honor.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY WEISS—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

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